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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE DATE:

March 28th, 2020

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Moore County Residents Test Positive for COVID-19, Total Number of Confirmed Cases to Seven

The Moore County Health Department was notified of two positive coronavirus (COVID-19) test results on Saturday, March 28th, 2020 by the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services. Today's two (2) confirmed positive cases were found to be unrelated to the five previous positive cases. One (1) case has been linked to travel outside the state and travel outside the United States. The other positive test result seems to be the first (1) suspected case to be classified as community spread. Community spread means there is at least one case where we don't know how someone contracted COVID-19. They didn't have contact with someone who has tested positive or traveled to highly impacted area (NCDHHS defined).

To protect privacy, no further information about the individuals will be shared by the Health Department. Moore County Health Department staff continues monitoring those individuals who tested positive and will follow up with anyone who is identified as a close contact. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) defines "close contact" as being within six feet for 10 minutes or more.

The Moore County Health Department continues to urge all residents to take measures to reduce the spread of coronavirus:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home if you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

Health officials also encourage everyone to implement social distancing measures to reduce frequency of contact, like maintaining six feet of distance, avoiding crowds, and staying home to the greatest extent possible. This is important for everyone and especially those at high risk of severe illness, specifically anyone over 65 years old or anyone who has an underlying health condition like heart disease, lung disease, diabetes or a weakened immune system. Further, individuals in this high-risk category should take extra care to be mindful of the recommendations and directives from State and local government in order to avoid exposure.

For more information about coronavirus and Moore County's response visit the counties webpages at:
www.moorecountync.gov or www.moorecountync.gov/health

3.28.2020
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